

A Broadband Initiative from the Iowa Communications Network



Broadband internet in rural areas is essential

As farming moves rapidly into the digital age, the need for faster, more reliable broadband access in rural areas grows. Today, broadband is truly a necessity, not a luxury.

Research shows gap in House, Senate candidates' website security

Nearly 30% of House of Representatives candidates have significant security issues in their websites compared to less than 5% of Senate candidates, according to new research. The disparity underscores the challenge that smaller, resource-strapped campaigns have in making themselves less vulnerable to hacking.

California's wildfire effort includes software originally developed for a drone-racing game

Edgybees was founded to make software for drone hobbyists, but its augmented reality programs adapted well for emergency responders.

FBI warns of potential ATM bank heist that could steal millions globally

The FBI was tipped off that cybercriminals would hack payment card processors or banks and use ATMs all over the world to withdraw millions of dollars over the course of a few hours, as reported by cybersecurity blog Krebs on Security.

FCC delays are keeping broadband from rural school kids

Rural schools requesting funding for broadband expansion have faced record delays and denials, according to the non-profit EducationSuperHighway, which works to get schools connected to the

internet. By their count, more than 60 eligible fiber projects have been unfairly denied since 2017, and more than 30 schools have been waiting about a year for approval.

Washington state reps present legislation to bridge broadband access gap

The Broadband Access for All Act is to provide a refundable tax credit of up to 75% for groups of individuals or businesses that form a broadband district and build a local network. The idea is to bridge the "last-mile" gap between rural homes and businesses and the existing broadband service network.

KC STEM Alliance works to close Missouri's tech talent pipeline gap

According to a report from the Missouri Chamber of Commerce, by 2030, Missouri will face a shortage of 200,000 qualified workers. The report outlines a number of additional findings that point back to deficits within the state's STEM talent pipelines.

Albuquerque Shows That Municipal Broadband Is A Smart City Necessity

Autonomous cars. The IoT. Big Data. Technologies like these are the heart of the Smart City vision, enabling increased efficiency and sustainability through the power of connectivity. Based on this line of reasoning, strong broadband connectivity is essential for a city to progress into the future. For cities, broadband is power.

West Virginia to introduce mobile phone voting for midterm elections

West Virginians serving overseas will be the first in the country to cast federal election ballots using a smartphone app, a move designed to make voting in November's election easier for troops living abroad.

Broadband Expansion Gains Momentum Across U.S.

A host of states and municipalities have recently made progress on the broadband scene, moving toward increased access to high-speed internet. Surveying the country, Smart & Resilient Cities compiled a round-up of related news stories, featuring public private partnerships from state capitals to rural counties.

Telehealth changes could help rural seniors age in place

Telemedicine providers can't catch senior citizens when they fall. But health services delivered over broadband can make it possible for seniors to live independently for longer periods of time.

Watch out for card skimming at the gas pump

Skimmers grab data off a credit or debit card's magnetic stripe without your knowledge. Criminals sell the stolen data or use it to buy things online. You won't know your information has been stolen until you get your statement or an overdraft notice.

CVS to offer nationwide telemedicine service through smartphone video

Drugstore giant CVS Health plans to offer a nationwide service to treat easy-to-diagnose maladies and other medical issues via its smartphone app. The telemedicine service will be offered for diagnosis of conditions such as colds and flu, skin issues and general wellness matters.

Seattle's 'Innovation Advisory Council' to commit corporate technology to homelessness, transportation issues

Officials from companies including Amazon, Zillow, Microsoft, Expedia and Tableau say they will share their technology to help solve local issues.



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